

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 189254

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. SAUDIS AGREE TO LARGE AID PACKAGE FOR YEMEN

SANA IS IN A STATE OF HAPPY SHOCK FOLLOWING PRIME MINISTER
GHANI'S VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA IN SEARCH OF ASSISTANCE:

--THE SAUDIS PROMISED THE YAR OVER \$700 MILLION IN NEW
AID PROJECTS AND BUDGET SUPPORT, FAR MORE THAN SANA
EXPECTED OR REQUESTED.

--SAUDI DEFENSE MINISTER SULTAN REPORTEDLY ASSURED THE
PRIME MINISTER THAT A SAG PROPOSAL REGARDING THE YAR'S
MILITARY REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE PREPARED IN TIME FOR
CHIEF OF STAFF GHASMI'S FORTHCOMING VISIT.

EMBASSY COMMENT: SAUDI ARABIA HAS APPARENTLY DECIDED THAT
ITS OWN SECURITY AND STABILITY CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM
EVENTS AND CONDITIONS IN THE SOUTH. SAUDI GENEROSITY WILL
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NOT BE LOST ON THE PDY, WHICH HAS BEEN PRESSED BY THE SAG

AND OTHERS IN RECENT MONTHS TO MODERATE ITS RADICAL POLICIES. THE EXTENT OF SAUDI ASSISTANCE TO THE YAR MAY RESOLVE PDRY DOUBTS ABOUT SAUDI CREDIBILITY, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME DRAMATICALLY UPSTAGING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS FINANCED BY ADEN'S COMMUNIST BENEFACTORS. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) SANA 2194, 8/9.)

2. INDIA: ANOTHER IMMUNIZATION FOR INDIRA

ON AUGUST 9, THE GOI INTRODUCED AND THE UPPER HOUSE PASSED A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT EXTENDING TO THE PRIME MINISTER IMMUNITY FROM CRIMINAL JURISDICTION, ARREST, AND IMPRISONMENT PREVIOUSLY ENJOYED ONLY BY THE PRESIDENT AND THE STATE GOVERNORS. THE AMENDMENT ALSO PROVIDES IMMUNITY FROM CIVIL PROCEEDINGS WHILE IN OFFICE. IT MUST YET BE APPROVED BY THE LOWER HOUSE WHEN THE RECESS ENDS AND MUST BE RATIFIED BY OVER HALF THE STATE ASSEMBLIES. THE EMBASSY NOTES THAT, WHILE IN THIS SESSION THE PARLIAMENT HAS CONCENTRATED ON LEGISLATION DESIGNED TO INSULATE MRS. GANDHI FROM THE JUDICIARY, THE NEXT SESSION WILL PROBABLY DEAL WITH WIDENING THE PRIME MINISTER'S POWERS. (CONFIDENTIAL) NEW DELHI 10782, 8/9.) KISSINGER

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